



**Location** - The route travels along the Banks-Lowman road. It can be accessed either at Banks along Idaho 55 or at Lowman along Idaho 21. Either point of access brings the traveler back to a route leading to Boise.

**Length** - 33 miles. Allow one hour. Allow 3 hours for the loop from Boise and back.

**Roadway** - This is a two-lane, paved roadway with no passing lanes, but there are several turnouts for scenic viewing. The roadway is maintained year around, but often has a snow floor during winter months.

**When to see it** - There are year-round opportunities for wildlife viewing with exceptional elk viewing in winter and spring. In summer months this stretch of river is world renowned for rafting and kayaking.

## Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway

Herds of elk numbering near one hundred are not an unusual sight along the Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway, especially near the Danskin river access. Along with elk are mule deer, whitetail deer, chukars, wild turkeys, eagles, ospreys, cougars, bears, and wolves. Several campgrounds along the byway have natural hot springs for visitors to enjoy, as well as several trails for hiking and biking. Fishing and rafting are also enjoyable activities afforded along the route. In winter months, summer hiking trails provide miles of snowmobile and skiing adventure. You will also find motels, bed and breakfasts, a musical theatre, and even a golf course.

Wildlife Canyon Scenic Byway joins two other scenic byways, forming a one-day drive from Boise. It can be accessed either by the Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway on Idaho 21 or by the Payette River Scenic Byway on Idaho 55. Either route connects with this 33-mile trip through some of the most powerful canyon scenery offered in the state. A one day trip from Boise affords visitors a glimpse of the pioneering spirit of early Idaho and the awesome beauty of Idaho's wildlife and whitewater.

**Special attractions** - The winter range for elk is located within a five-mile section in the middle of the route near the Danskin river-access point. A turnout with wildlife viewing scopes is available at Gallagher Flat.

Large herds of elk and deer are found along this stretch of roadway during winter and spring months. The migratory and nesting route for Canada Geese is located here also.



The South Fork of the Payette River offers world-class rafting and kayaking. Visitors are treated to the acrobatics of kayakers in class IV conditions along several points of the river. Commercial rafting companies offer trips down the river.

**Camping** - Hot Springs Campground, Pine Flats Campground, RV parks in Crouch and Garden Valley.

**Contacts** - Boise National Forest Garden Valley Ranger Station: 208-462-3241; Garden Valley Chamber of Commerce: 208-462-5003, [www.gvchamber.org](http://www.gvchamber.org), [gvchamber@gvchamber.org](mailto:gvchamber@gvchamber.org).

